

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance comprising ~~a utensil or~~ a cooking appliance body and a food contacting surface adhered to a surface of said body and constituting a cooking surface, characterized in that this cooking surface is a metal alloy of zirconium and at least one other metal, and the zirconium content of which is at least 75wt%.

2. (currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that the alloy contains less than 10wt% of elements in addition to the zirconium.

3. (currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 2, characterized in that it is obtained by the deposit of ~~a selected thickness of~~ metallic material on a substrate.

4. (currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 3, characterized in that the deposit is carried out by cathode sputtering of a massive target.

5. (currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 4, characterized in that the target is obtained by assembly on a copper substrate of one or more sheets or plates of material having the desired composition, said sheets or plates being obtained either by

powder sintering or thermal powder projection, or resulting from casting.

6. (currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil~~ or cooking appliance according to claim 2, characterized in that it is obtained by assembly of a crystalline metal sheet on a substrate.

7. (currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil~~ or cooking appliance according to claim 6, characterized in that the sheet is obtained by rolling of an ingot resulting from melting of a mixture of metals.

8. (currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil~~ or cooking appliance according to claim 7, characterized in that the assembly is carried out by one of the following techniques: colaminating, brazing, hot striking.

9. (currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil~~ or cooking appliance according to claim 8, characterized in that the sheet and the substrate undergo, after assembly, a step of working by stamping.

10. (currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil~~ or cooking appliance according to claim 9, characterized in that the substrate is composed of one or more metal sheet(s) of the following materials: aluminum, stainless steel, cast iron, steel, copper.

11. (Currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil~~ or cooking appliance according to claim 8, characterized in that the substrate is composed of one or more metal sheet(s) of the following materials: aluminum, stainless steel, cast iron, steel, copper.

12. (Currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 8, characterized in that the sheet and the substrate undergo, after assembly, a step of working by stamping.

13. (Currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 7, characterized in that the sheet and the substrate undergo, after assembly, a step of working by stamping.

14. (Currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 7, characterized in that the substrate is composed of one or more metal sheet(s) of the following materials: aluminum, stainless steel, cast iron, steel, copper.

15. (Currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 6, characterized in that the assembly is carried out by one of the following techniques: colaminating, brazing, hot striking.

16. (Currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 6, characterized in that the sheet and the substrate undergo, after assembly, a step of working by stamping.

17. (Currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 6, characterized in that the substrate is composed of one or more metal sheet(s) of the following materials: aluminum, stainless steel, cast iron, steel, copper.

18. (Currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 5, characterized in that the substrate is composed of one or more metal sheet(s) of the following materials: aluminum, stainless steel, cast iron, steel, copper.

19. (Currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 4, characterized in that the substrate is composed of one or more metal sheet(s) of the following materials: aluminum, stainless steel, cast iron, steel, copper.

20. (Currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 2, characterized in that the substrate is composed of one or more metal sheet(s) of the following materials: aluminum, stainless steel, cast iron, steel, copper.

21. (Currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that it is obtained by the deposit of a ~~selected thickness of~~ metallic material on a substrate.

22. (Currently amended) A ~~kitchen utensil or~~ cooking appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that it is obtained by assembly of a crystalline metal sheet on a substrate.

23. (canceled)

24. (New) A method for cooking food comprising:  
providing a cooking appliance comprising an  
appliance body and a food contacting surface adhered to a  
surface of said body and constituting a cooking surface,

characterized in that this cooking surface is a metal alloy of zirconium and at least one other metal, and the zirconium content of which is at least 75wt%;

heating the cooking appliance and placing food on the cooking surface; and

removing the food from the cooking appliance after cooking of the food has been completed.

25. (New) The method according to claim 24, wherein the alloy contains less than 10wt% of elements in addition to the zirconium.

26. (New) The method according to claim 24, wherein said step of providing a cooking appliance comprises:

providing a cooking appliance body composed at least partially of a metal substrate; and

securing a layer or sheet of a metal alloy of zirconium and at least one other metal to the substrate, the zirconium content of the alloy being at least 75wt%, the layer or sheet forming the food contacting surface and being easy to clean.